# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Mr. Raymond A. Mosley, Director Office of the Federal Register Washington, DC 20408 August 17, 2001

Dear Mr. Mosley:

I am requesting expedited publication of this notice of proposed rulemaking entitled, "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Rate of Progress Plan for Pennsylvania Portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton Ozone Nonattainment Area".

I am requesting expedited publication of this proposed rule as this Rate of Progress Plan is a required State Implementation Plan (SIP) rulemaking action EPA must promulgate in order to approve an attainment demonstration for the Philadelphia area. Under a federal Consent Decree, EPA is required to sign the final rulemaking action on the attainment plan SIP by October 15, 2001. Under the terms of the Consent Decree, unless EPA signs a final rulemaking to approve the attainment plan SIP for the Philadelphia. area on or before October 15, 2001, it must sign a proposed FIP rule for the attainment demonstration for the area on October 15, 2001.

Thank you,

Marcia L. Spink

Associate Director for Air Programs

Air Protection Division

215 814-2104



#### United States

### **Environmental Protection Agency**

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# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Mr. James M. Salvaggio, Director Bureau of Air Quality Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 8468 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8468

OCT 02 1998

Dear Mr. Salvaggio: -

On August 4, 1998, EPA received a revision to the Pennsylvania State Implementation Plan (SIP) from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) pertaining to the "Phase I" plan for the Philadelphia severe ozone nonattainment area. This revision contains both the 1996 to 1999 rate-of-progress reduction required by section 182 of the Clean Air Act, and the requirements described in the March 2, 1995 memorandum from EPA Assistant Administrator Mary Nichols outlining EPA's alternative attainment demonstration policy. This revision also establishes the 1990 oxides of nitrogen (NOx) base year inventory for the Philadelphia nonattainment area.

EPA has determined that the submittal is administratively and technically complete, and is reviewing it to prepare a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR). This completeness determination stops the 18-month sanctions clock that EPA started on May 7, 1997. The sanctions clock was started for Pennsylvania's failure to submit the enforceable commitments to adopt (1) additional measures needed for attainment and (2) the remainder of the rules to meet rate-of-progress requirements pending modeling results from the Ozone Transport Assessment Group (OTAG), as required by the March 2, 1995 Mary Nichols memorandum. PADEP's complete SIP submittal remedies that failure. Therefore, the sanctions clock is halted.

If members of your staff have any questions, they may direct them to Maria Pino, Ozone & Mobile Sources Branch, at (215) 814-2181. She is the principal contact for this rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Judith M. Katz, Director Air Protection Division

Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474